

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. Claims 1-12 are rejected.

Applicants cancelled claims 1 and 2 herein.

Claims 3 and 7 have been amended herein to clarify applicant's claimed invention. The claims define a plurality of switching equipment are connected to a subscriber transmission equipment, where the subscriber transmission equipment includes switching equipment interface units provided respectively for the plurality of digital switching equipment and switch options are set so as to be the same as corresponding to the plurality of digital switching equipment.

Accordingly, the present claimed invention may provide a system where the subscriber transmission equipment can accommodate a plurality of switching equipment having different equipment modes.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Small et al. (U.S. 6,078,649) (hereinafter Small).

Small fails to disclose any subscriber transmission equipment, to which a plurality of switching equipment is connected. Applicant claims subscriber transmission equipment connected to the plurality of switching equipment; wherein the subscriber transmission equipment includes, switching equipment interface units provided respectively for the plurality of digital switching equipment.

The Office Action argues that Small, indicates the "controller sets switch options for the switching equipment interface units, the control path unit and the ISDN subscriber interface unit, so that the set switch options are the same as corresponding to the plurality of digital switching equipment connected to the subscriber transmission equipment" at col. 5, lines 39-46, col. 1, line

45 and col. 6, lines 35-66. However in reviewing these sections it could not be found where a controller is setting switch options as claimed.

Small discloses controller 64 may comprise one or more UNIX processors, but the Examiner fails to indicate which portion in the subject matter of the claims corresponds to the controller 64. Small describes at the maintenance facility a controller receives the alarm data and stores the data in a log file. The controller is in communication with a display, printer, database, and work stations.

Even if the controller 64 of Small is considered as corresponding to the subscriber transmission equipment as recited in applicant's claims, the controller 64 is not connected to a plurality of switching equipment, and does not include switching equipment interface units provided respectively for the plurality of digital switching equipment, a control path unit, and an ISDN subscriber interface unit.

Accordingly, Small fails to disclose the controller (allegedly corresponded controller 64) sets switch options for the switching equipment interface units, the control path unit and the ISDN subscriber interface unit.

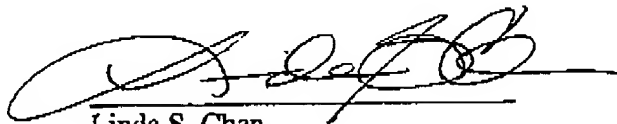
Because Small does not teach the controller setting switch options for the switching equipment interface unit, the control path unit and the ISDN subscriber interface unit, so that the set switch options are the same as corresponding to the digital switching equipment connected to the subscriber transmission equipment the rejections should be withdrawn and claims 3-12 be allowed.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider

this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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